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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, August 31, 1989 -- Carloadings* originated on major U.S. railroads during the week ended August 26 totaled 346,099, up 0.7 percent from the comparable week of 1988 and 4.7 percent above the preceding week of 1989, the Association of American Railroads (AAR) reported today. The railroads reporting account for approximately 94 percent of all rail carloads.

Carloadings originated were up 4.6 percent in the West but down 2.6 percent in the East, compared with a year ago.

From the comparable 1988 week, loadings of metallic ores were up 3,056 cars (17.6 percent). Coal loadings were up 2,246 cars (1.7 percent) and grain loadings were up 845 cars (3.4 percent). Loadings of waste and scrap materials were down 1,109 cars (11.8 percent).

Cumulative carloadings for the first 34 weeks of 1989 totaled 11,272,593, down 1.0 percent from the comparable period a year ago.

Intermodal traffic on Class I railroads -- which is not included in the carloadings -- totaled 115,350 trailers and/or containers for the week ended August 26, down 1.2 percent from the comparable week of 1988.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 34 weeks of 1989 was 3,818,896 trailers and/or containers, 3.2 percent above the comparable 1988 total.

The AAR also estimated that ton-miles carried on major railroads in the week ended August 26 totaled 19.8 billion, 1.5 percent above the comparable week of 1988. Cumulative volume for the first 34 weeks of 1989 was an estimated 646.3 billion ton-miles, down 0.3 percent from the comparable period of last year.

**Because of changes in reporting, 1989 figures are not comparable to previous years, except for 1988, which has been restated for purposes of comparison with 1989.*

(more)

WEEKLY TRAFFIC OF MAJOR RAILROADS
FOR THE WEEK ENDING AUGUST 26, 1989

CARLOADS ORIGINATED, BY COMMODITY GROUP

COMMODITY	WEEK ENDING AUGUST 26, 1989	COMPARISON WITH SAME WEEK OF 1988	CHANGE	COMPARISON WITH PRECEDING WEEK	CHANGE
Grain	25,980	25,135	3.4 %	25,719	1.0 %
Farm Products, Ex. Grain	946	957	-1.1	816	15.9
Metallic Ores	20,392	17,336	17.6	20,323	.3
Coal	132,805	130,559	1.7	132,554	.2
Crushed Stone, Sand & Gravel	17,498	18,464	-5.2	15,781	10.9
Nonmetallic Minerals	10,149	10,876	-6.7	10,877	-6.7
Grain Mill Products	10,144	10,445	-2.9	9,889	2.6
Food & Kindred Products	8,797	9,095	-3.3	8,010	9.8
Primary Forest Products	9,312	9,797	-5.0	8,955	4.0
Lumber & Wood Products	6,813	7,034	-3.1	4,845	40.6
Pulp, Paper & Allied Products	10,630	10,999	-3.4	9,367	13.5
Chemicals	27,345	26,572	2.9	23,761	15.1
Petroleum Products	5,296	5,310	-.3	4,295	23.3
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	10,825	10,551	2.6	10,567	2.4
Coke	5,406	5,791	-6.6	5,153	4.9
Metals & Products	9,645	10,457	-7.8	8,209	17.5
Motor Vehicles & Equipment	18,114	18,041	.4	17,314	4.6
Waste & Scrap Materials	8,302	9,411	-11.8	7,799	6.4
All Other Carloads	7,700	7,016	9.7	6,342	21.4
Total	**346,099**	**343,846**	**.7 %**	**330,576**	**4.7 %**

SUMMARY: CARLOADS ORIGINATED, INTERMODAL TRAFFIC AND ESTIMATED TON-MILES

TRAFFIC	WEEK ENDING AUGUST 26, 1989 1989	1988	CHANGE	CUMULATIVE: 34 WEEKS ENDING AUGUST 26, 1989 1989	1988	CHANGE
Carloads Originated	**346,099**	**343,846**	**.7 %**	**11,272,593**	**11,385,134**	**-1.0 %**
Intermodal Traffic Originated						
Trailers	63,918	69,227	-7.7	2,209,537	2,236,740	-1.2
Containers	51,432	47,568	8.1	1,609,359	1,464,571	9.9
Total	**115,350**	**116,795**	**-1.2**	**3,818,896**	**3,701,311**	**3.2**
Estimated Ton-Miles						
Class I Railroads (Billions)	**19.8**	**19.5**	**1.5 %**	**646.3 r**	**648.3 r**	**-.3 %**

r Cumulative ton-mile estimates for Weeks 27–33 of 1988 and 1989 have been revised.

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